

DOCKET NOS: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197

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1902 Wickham Street
Royal Oak, MI 48073-1123
August 4th, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Docket Manager:

I am writing concerning docket numbers 98N-1230, 96P-0418, and 97P-0197. I am especially concerned about the practice of forced molting of hens. I read that the US Dept of Agriculture's Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS) stated: "FSIS recognizes that public health concerns are raised by highly stressful forced molting practices. For example, extended starvation and water deprivation practices lead to increased shedding of Salmonella enteritidis (Se) by laying hens subjected to these practices."

I think that the FDA should work to reduce egg-borne diseases because of the many illnesses and deaths caused by contaminated eggs. To this end, the FDA should ban the practice of forced molting because is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs.

The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting. This petition should be granted without further delay.

Sincerely,

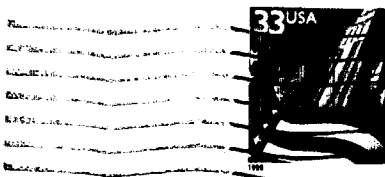
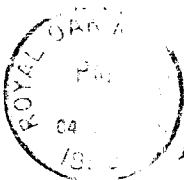


Maida Waldner Genser

96P-0418

C95

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ *C95*

See File Number: 97P-0197/ *C96*

96P 0418/ *C95*